

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1313 without my signature.

This bill would ban, effective January 1, 2010, the manufacture, sale or distribution in commerce of food packaging and other materials that come into contact with food and that contain certain perfluorinated compounds (PFCs) at specified levels.

Last year, when I signed AB 1108 (Ma) banning phthalates, I stated in my signing message that a chemical by chemical, product by product approach to these issues was not the most effective way to make chemical policy in California. I offered that I prefer a more systematic, science-based approach that would take into account the health effects, risks, and available alternatives for chemicals used in commerce today.

I have signed AB 1879 (Feuer) and SB 509 (Simitian) which mark the beginning of California's historic Green Chemistry Initiative. It is within this process that chemicals like PFCs should be addressed.

For these reasons, I am returning this bill without my signature.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor